

REMARKS

Specification

The terms "sleeve" and "sheath" are used interchangeably in the specification to describe drawing element 9. This is now clarified in the list of reference numbers. No new matter has been added.

35 USC 112

Claim 1 is clarified as required.

Original claim 2 introduced the term "sleeve", but its first dependent claim 3 used "sheath" to refer to the same element. All of the amended claims consistently use the term "sheath".

Claim 5 introduces a "continuous sheath" as its second element. Thereafter, claim 5 refers to "the sheath". This is a proper reference as understood by Agent, since there is only one sheath element. There is no ambiguity. Note that the sheath as shown and described in the specification, and as recited in original claims 2-6, is continuous around multiple sides of the enclosure. There is not a separate sheath for each side of the enclosure.

35 USC 103 claim 2 in view of Drago (US Patent 2,847,0017) and Smith (US Patent 3,709,237)

Claim 2 has been combined with claim 3 as required for allowance.

The following argument is provided for the record: Neither Drago nor Smith provides a continuous sheath around the upper edge of multiple sides. This is significant because Applicant's continuous sheath 9 holds multiple rods 1-3 in position end-to-end without hardware connections. In contrast, Drago requires an opening 28 in the sheath 48 at each upper corner of the enclosure for external access to the ends of the rigid rods 34 for assembly. Thus, Drago could not use a continuous sheath. Smith provides multiple upper sections 18, each of which is made independently rigid by means of an internal quadrilateral frame 40. Each section 18 is

hinged horizontally and vertically to adjacent sections by means of a fabric seam. There is no suggestion for a continuous sheath around the upper edges of multiple sections in Smith, since there is no need for such a sheath in Smith.

35 USC 103 claim 5 in view of Japanese Patent No. 10-238169 and McElroy (US Patent 3,397,710)

Claim 5 has been combined with claim 6 as required for allowance.

CONCLUSION

The claims are amended herein as required by Action 1 for allowance. The Applicant feels this application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully,



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